

Message Text

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USCINCSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR PINR BL

SUBJ: BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION FOR PRESIDENTIAL VISIT

REF: LA PAZ 5635

1. LIST OF OFFICIAL MEMBERS OF PRESIDENTIAL PARTY WAS PROVIDED IN REFTEL. OF PARTY MEMBERS, EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT DEPARTMENT ALREADY HAS CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF BIOGRAPHIC DATA ON PRESIDENT, AMBASSADOR VALENCIA, MINISTERS AND EX-MINISTER ORMACHEA. SHOULD FURTHER INFORMATION BE REQUIRED ON THESE INDIVIDUALS, WE SHALL BE HAPPY TO SUPPLY SAME. IN FOLLOWING PARAGRAPHS, WE SUBMIT BIO INFORMATION ON GUILLERMO CESPEDES, MAJOR GUILLERMO ESCOBAR AND AMBASSADOR CARLOS COSTA.

2. GUILLERMO CESPEDES RIVERA IS CURRENTLY SUB-SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF MINISTRY OF FOREIGN RELATIONS, A POST HE HAS OCCUPIED SINCE SEPTEMBER 1972. BORN IN LA PAZ AROUND 1914, CESPEDES HAS HAD LENGTHY CAREER AS DIPLOMAT AND JOURNALIST. BEGINNING DIPLOMATIC CAREER IN 1932 AS DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION OF FOREIGN MINISTRY, HE SERVED SUBSEQUENTLY AS FIRST SECRETARY IN ROME AND LIMA, AND AS CONSUL GENERAL IN BUENOS AIRES. AS JOURNALIST, CESPEDES HAD LENGTHY RELATIONSHIP WITH "LA RAZON" OF LA PAZ, OF WHICH HE WAS CHIEF EDITOR FROM 1949 TO 1952. FOLLOWING MNR REVOLUTION IN 1952, HE COMMENCED
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SIXTEEN YEARS IN EXILE, OF WHICH HE SPENT SEPTEMBER 1961 TO

SEPTEMBER 1962 IN PHILADELPHIA, AND MAY 1965 TO SEPTEMBER 1968 IN NEW YORK. FROM 1968 TO 1971 CESPEDES OCCUPIED HIGH POSITIONS IN DIRECTORSHIP OF "EL DIARIO" OF LA PAZ, BEFORE BEING NAMED DIRECTOR OF PRESS RELATIONS OF FOREIGN MINISTRY IN OCTOBER 1971. CESPEDES, WHO HAS VISITED U.S. ON LEADER GRANT, IS BELIEVED TO BE MEMBER OF FSB. HE IS MARRIED, AND HAS THREE MARRIED DAUGHTERS.

3. MAJOR GUILLERMO ESCOBAR UHRY WAS NAMED CHIEF OF PRESIDENT'S MILITARY HOUSEHOLD ON SEPTEMBER 22, 1972. ESCOBAR, A PILOT IN BOLIVIAN AIR FORCE, WAS BORN IN UNCIA (POTOSI) ON JULY 27, 1938. HIS EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND INCLUDES SAN CALIXTO SCHOOL IN LA PAZ (1944-49), MILITARY ACADEMY (1950-56) AND AIR ACADEMY IN SANTA CRUZ (1956-59). IN ADDITION, ESCOBAR RECEIVED CADET TRAINING IN ARGENTINA (1958), FLIGHT TRAINING IN U.S. (1960-61) AND TRAINING IN PERU (1963). AMONG HIS PAST ASSIGNMENTS ARE LIAISON OFFICER TO U.S. AIR MISSION TO BOLIVIA (1962), STAFF OFFICER OF G-2, AIR FORCE STAFF (1965), INSTRUCTOR IN MILITARY ACADEMY (1970), LIAISON OFFICER TO THIRD DIVISION (1971) AND CHIEF OF PRESIDENTIAL AIDES (AUGUST 1971 TO SEPTEMBER 1972), TOGETHER WITH VARIOUS TOURS OF DUTY AS PILOT. ESCOBAR, WHO IS MARRIED WITH THREE CHILDREN, REPORTEDLY SPEAKS ENGLISH WELL.

4. ONLY INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO EMBASSY ON CARLOS COSTA DU RELS, WHO WAS APPOINTED DIRECTOR OF PROTOCOL OF FOREIGN MINISTRY IN DECEMBER 1971, IS THAT HIS PREVIOUS ASSIGNMENT WAS AS CHARGE D'AFFAIRES IN CARACAS. IN PRIVATE CONVERSATIONS WITH CHARGE, COSTA HAS EXPRESSED REALLY EXTREME RIGHT-WING VIEWS, AND IS RABIDLY ANTI-MNR.
BREWIN

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